setting up of Decentralised Distribution Generation (DDG) and Supply system from conventional sources for villages where grid connectivity is either not feasible or not cost effective provided it is not covered under the programme of Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources for providing electricity from non-conventional energy sources under their remote village electrification programme of 25,000 villages. The scheme is being implemented over a period of four years, completing in 2009.

Power shortage in Rajasthan

483. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rajasthan is facing acute power shortage;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to bridge the gap between the actual demand and supply;

(c) the details of production and demand during the last three years;

(d) the details of the new power projects, if any, cleared by Government in Rajasthan, during last three years;

(e) whether any proposals are still pending for clearance;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(g) the present status of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) During the period April—January, 2006, energy and peak shortage in Rajasthan was 3.3% and 11.6% respectively.

(b) Electricity being a concurrent subject, supply and distribution of electricity in a State is in the purview of the State Government/State Power Utility concerned. Government of India only supplements the efforts of State Government (s) by commissioning power projects through Central Public Sector Undertakings. The following assistance has been provided by the Central Government during the current year to the State of Rajasthan to improve the power supply position in the State:

Firm share of power of Rajasthan from Central Generating Stations (CGSs) in Northern Region (NR) increased by 77 MW with the commissioning

of Unit-3 (500 MW) Rihand Stage-II and Dhauliganga HEP (4x70 MW). Rajasthan has been allocated 16—25% allocation from unallocated quota in NR, 22 MW from unallocated quota of RAPP unit-3 & 4 and about 31 MW from the unallocated quota of NTPC stations in ER.

(c) The power supply position in Rajasthan during the last three years *i.e.* 2002-03 to 2004-05 was as under:

Year	Energy Requirement	Energy Availability	Energy Shortage		Peak Demand	Peak Met	Deficit	
	(MU)	(MU)	(MU)	(%)	(MW)	(MW)	(MW)	(%)
2002-03	25,917	25382	535	2.1	3,880	3,820	60	1.5
2003-04	26,611	26486	125	0.5	4,134	4,134	0	0
2004-05	29,207	28,974	233	0.8	4,786	4,414	372	7.8

(d) No new power project in Rajasthan has been cleared during the last three years.

(e) to (g) As per the Electricity Act, 2003, techno-economic clearance of Thermal Power Projects from CEA is not required. No proposal for setting up of hydro power projects in Rajasthan is presently under examination in CEA.

Closure of hydroelectric projects

†484. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering on liberalizing the rules relating to technical economic sanction for hydro projects;

(b) if so, the nature of impact it will have on the expansion of hydroelectric capacity;

(c) whether Government would revive the closed hydroelectric projects; and

(d) if so, the details of closed hydroelectric projects, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) At present, a generating company intending to set up a hydroelectric

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.